DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 121 541 RC 009 142

TITLE Migrant Student Record Transfer System in New York State.
INSTITUTION New York State Education Dept., Albany. Bureau of Migrant Education.; State Univ. of New York, Albany.
PUB DATE 75
NOTE 4p.

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.83 HC-$1.67 Plus Postage
DESCRIPTORS *Computer Oriented Programs; *Data Bases; Information Systems; *Migrant Children; *On Line Systems; *Student Records
IDENTIFIERS *Migrant Student Record Transfer System; MSRTS; New York

ABSTRACT

In 1970, the Migrant Student Record Transfer System (MSRTS) was funded through Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. A single center at Little Rock (Arkansas) was designed to contain a profile on each migrant student enrolled. The Center's aim was to assure a high degree of accuracy while maintaining flexibility and ready access to student profiles for educators. In New York State, three terminals are located in areas of heavy migrant population: (1) Medina handles western New York, (2) Williamson is responsible for central New York, and (3) New Paltz covers eastern New York and Long Island. Local schools can phone their terminal to secure or relay urgent information. Routine data are processed by mail or courier from approximately 150 local educational agencies serving over 5,400 migrant children in New York State. Through the information contained on the MSRTS form, rapid grade placement, accurate curriculum programming and proper health services can be provided more readily to migrant students. When the student profile is complete, teachers are afforded insights critical to motivation, program development, and counseling for the children. This paper presents a very brief overview of the MSRTS, its purpose and confidentiality, and the system in New York State. (NQ)

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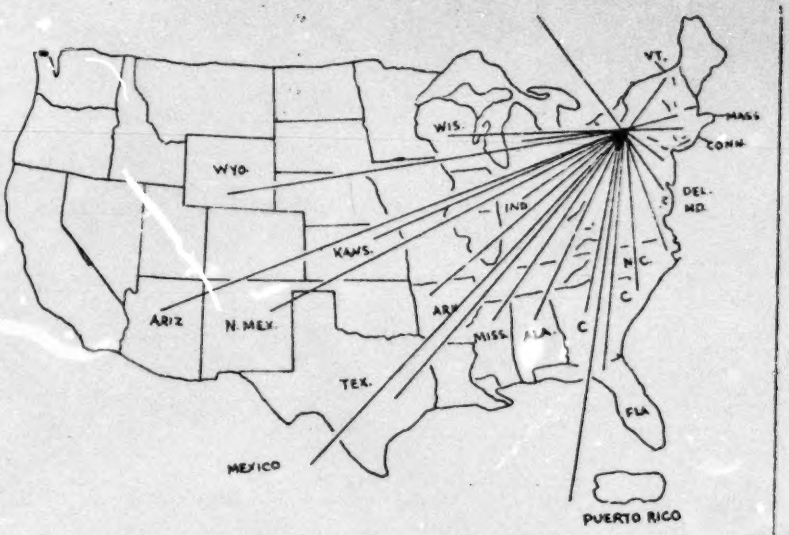
MIGRANT STUDENT RECORD TRANSFER SYSTEM in NEW YORK STATE



The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department
Office of ESC Educational Opportunity Programs
Bureau of Migrant Education

1975

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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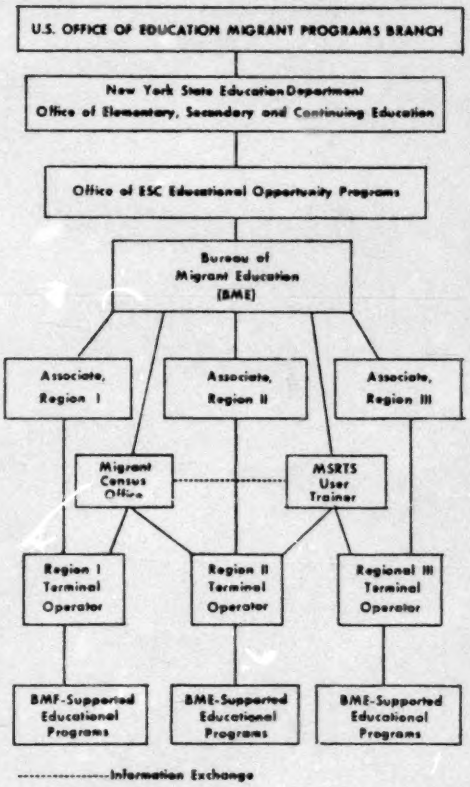

U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION MIGRANT PROGRAMS BRANCH
New York State Education Department
Office of Elementary, Secondary and Continuing Education
Office of ESC Educational Opportunity Programs
Bureau of Migrant Education (BME)
Associate, Region I
Associate, Region II
Associate, Region III
Migrant Census Office
MSRTS User Trainer
Region I Terminal Operator
Region II Terminal Operator
Regional III Terminal Operator
BMF-Supported Educational Programs
BME-Supported Educational Programs
BME-Supported Educational Programs
Information Exchange

RC009142

In NEW YORK STATE, three terminals are located in areas of heavy migrant population: MEDINA, which handles Western New York; WILLIAMSON, responsible for Central New York; and NEW PALTZ, covering Eastern New York and Long Island. Local schools can phone their terminal to secure or relay urgent information. Routine data are processed by mail or courier from approximately 150 local educational agencies (schools, BOCES, colleges) serving over 5,400 migrant children in New York State.

Why is there need for such a highly technical network? Before MSRTS was established, educators working with migrant children were unable to obtain and exchange accurate, complete and up-to-date records on the children due to their acute mobility. Typically, children would arrive without records from previous schools attended. Consequently, incorrect grade placements, constant retesting, and duplications of health services often resulted.

In 1970, Congress provided funds for MSRTS through Title I, Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The Little Rock Center was designed to contain a profile on each migrant student enrolled. The aim of this single purpose Center is to assure a high degree of accuracy while maintaining flexibility and ready access to student profiles for educators.

Through the information contained on the MSRTS form, rapid grade placement, accurate curriculum programming and proper health services can be provided more readily to migrant students. When the student profile is complete, teachers are afforded insights critical to motivation, program development and counseling for the children.

WHAT BENEFITS?

MSRTS benefits migrant children by .....

PROVIDING rapid exchange of biographical, academic and medical/health information to assist educators with placement and care of migrant children. Information exchanged includes:

1. Percentage of attendance in migrant programs;
2. Parent/guardian information;
3. Types and results of health screenings;
4. Urgent and/or chronic medical problems and treatment needs;
5. Medical contact sources;
6. Dates of inoculations (or omissions thereof);
7. Criterion-referenced assessments and/or standardized tests given, scores and dates;
8. Cumulative hours of student enrollment in special educational programs, fostering program assessment and/or continuity.
9. Profile of student interests, providing motivational insights;
10. Secondary school credit in basic subjects toward graduation.

ENCOURAGING development and continuity of migrant education programs.

PROMOTING understanding of problems and/or needs unique to migratory children.

ESTABLISHING a national agency responsible for accumulation, storage and dissemination of pertinent educational data for migrant students.

FACILITATING interstate educational cooperation.

HOW CONFIDENTIAL?

MSRTS WAS APPROVED BY THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

Private student data are protected in the following ways:

— Uniform record design allows no input of derogatory student information.

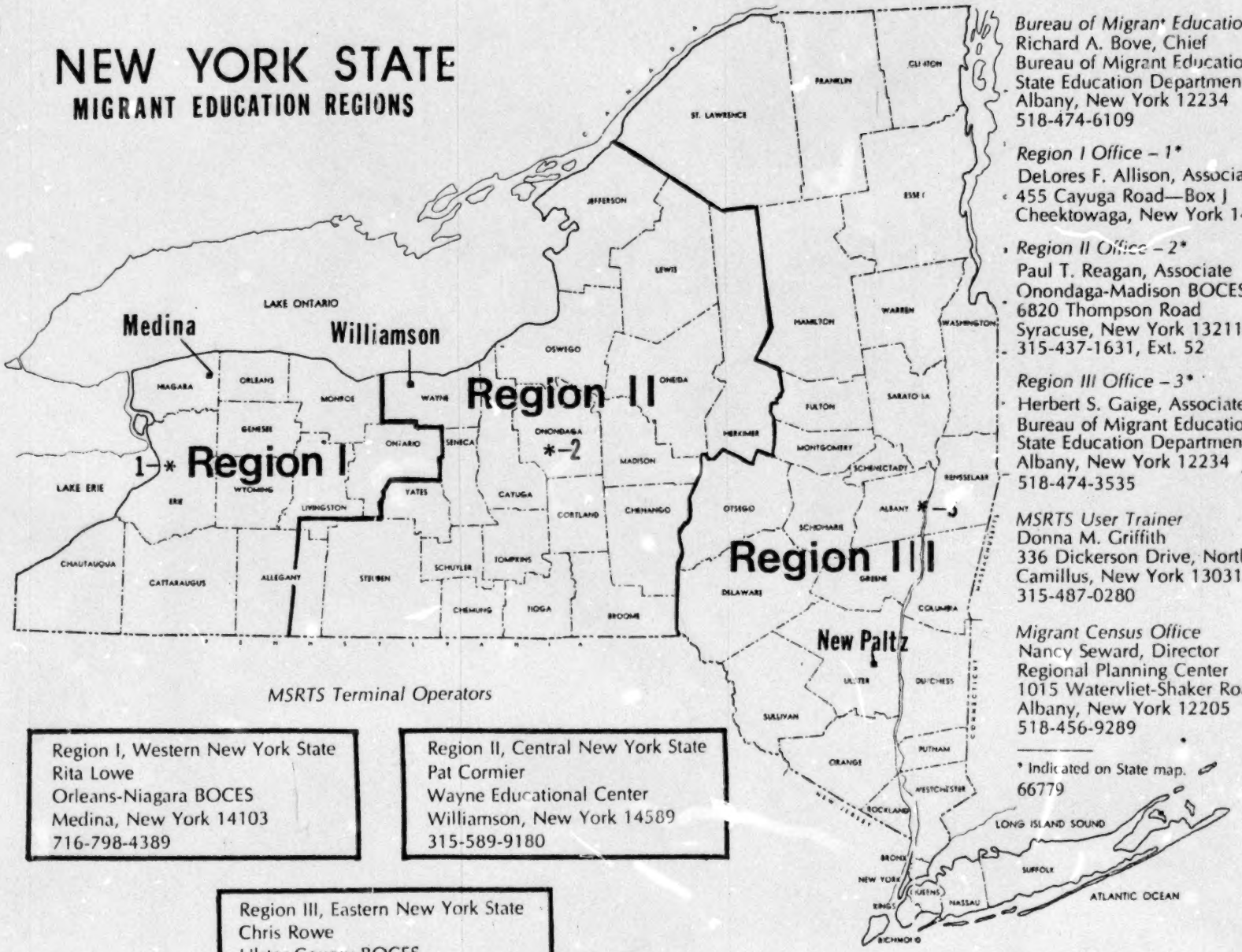
— Individual student records can be sent only to authorized educational agencies (resolution adopted by states and approved by USOE).

— Teletype format and security codes made available only to authorized personnel; check codes prevent unauthorized terminals from accessing computer.

— Validity checks made periodically to assure access data match precisely all student data in computer file.

— Individual state's laws apply regarding protection of student information.

NEW YORK STATE
MIGRANT EDUCATION REGIONS



MSRTS Terminal Operators

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* Indicated on State map.

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